

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF FY 2011 CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CMAQ) AND REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (RSTP) PROJECT FUNDING REQUESTS

ISSUE: Consideration of the FY 2011 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Project funding requests.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) As recommended by the City's Transportation Commission, approve transportation projects discussed below as those projects for which the City of Alexandria will request CMAQ and RSTP grant funding totaling \$5.4 million for FY 2011; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to apply for these grants, and give him permission to enter into necessary agreements with the state to accept any of these grants that are provided by the Commonwealth.

DISCUSSION: Every year the Commonwealth allocates Federal CMAQ and RSTP money to our region, which the jurisdictions within the NVT A distribute among themselves. These funding allocations typically total approximately \$24 million for CMAQ and \$36 million for RSTP funds. These funds have been allocated since FY 1993 for CMAQ and FY 1994 for RSTP. Alexandria has been the recipient of substantial amounts of CMAQ and RSTP funding in recent years, as is shown in the following table:

<u>Fiscal Year (FY)</u>	<u>Alexandria Funding</u>
FY 2007	\$3,850,000
FY 2008	\$3,520,000
FY 2009	\$3,080,000
FY 2010	\$2,490,000

While it is not likely, based on prior year grant awards, that all \$5.4 million in City projects will be funded in FY2011, it is important to put an aggressive funding request forward to garner as much funding as possible.

CMAQ funds are allocated to regions throughout the country that are either not meeting Clean Air Act regulations, like the Washington metropolitan region. These funds must be used for activities that improve air quality and cannot be used to increase the capacity of roadways. This year, as it has done since 2006, the Commonwealth will provide the local matching funds. RSTP funds are very flexible funds that can be used for a wide range of regional transportation activities. The City's recommendations must be made to NVTA by September 25, 2009. This year the City's new Transportation Commission was pivotal in developing the recommendations for this docket item. One of the Commission's most important duties is to recommend priorities for projects for which the City is requesting grant funding. After employing several criteria, receiving public input, and discussing the projects, the Transportation Commission unanimously approved the projects and priorities outlined in this report.

By the deadline of September 25, 2009, the City of Alexandria needs to submit to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) a set of proposed projects to be funded by the CMAQ and RSTP. These projects will be collectively reviewed by jurisdictional staff and a recommended set of will be submitted to the NVTA Board for approval. These recommendations will then be forwarded to the Commonwealth Transportation Board, which will approve projects by next June.

This year, the City Transportation Commission participated in developing the recommendations which are set forth in this docket item.

The Commission used the following factors to prioritize the projects:

- Livability
- Connectivity
- Land Use
- Multimodal Choices
- Improvement of Aging Infrastructure
- Use of Technology
- Single Occupancy Vehicle Reduction
- Safety Improvement
- Potential for Obtaining City Funding for the Project
- Impact on Operating and Maintenance Costs
- Urgency of the project

SUMMARY: The following projects requesting \$5.4 million are recommended for funding in the following priority order.

FY 2011 RSTP/CMAQ Funding Request

Project	Tier I Requests				Prior Grant Funding
	Total	Federal Funds	State Match	Local Match	
1. Preliminary Engineering of Exclusive Transitway Improvements	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$100,000	0	\$1,400,000 (3 Years)
2.DASH Bus Acquisition	\$2,400,000	\$1,920,000	\$480,000	0	\$0
3. Transportation Demand Management Analysis and Initiatives	\$100,000	\$80,000	\$20,000	0	\$1,100,000 (4 Years)
4. Bike Racks on DASH Buses	\$280,000	\$224,000	\$56,000	0	\$0
5. Holmes Run Pedestrian/Bicycle Tunnel Construction, Phase II	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$100,000	0	\$510,000 (2 Years)
6.Bicycle Sharing Initiative	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$100,000	0	\$0
7. Eisenhower Platform Extension	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$100,000	0	\$3.6 million FTA and DRPT funds-No RSTP or CMAQ
8. Braddock Road Metro Multimodal Connections	\$250,000	\$200,000	\$50,000	0	\$0
9. Bicycle Parking at Major Transit Stops	\$380,000	\$304,000	\$76,000	0	\$0
TOTALS	\$5,410,000	\$4,328,000	\$1,082,000	0	\$6,600,000

FISCAL IMPACT: The proposed projects do not require local matching funds from the City. The match will be provided from the Commonwealth.

ATTACHMENT: CMAQ/RSTP Funding Request Description

STAFF:

Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager

Richard J. Baier, P.E., Director, T&ES

Bruce Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, OMB

James Maslanka, Division Chief of Transit, T&ES

Antonio Baxter, Division Chief of Administration, T&ES

Malik Williams, Fiscal Officer, T&ES

Bernard Caton, Legislative Director, City Manager's Office

Yon Lambert, Principal Planner, T&ES

CMAQ/RSTP FUNDING REQUEST DESCRIPTION

Nine projects are proposed for CMAQ or RSTP funding in FY 2011. These are briefly described below, in priority order:

1. Preliminary Engineering of Exclusive Transitway Improvements

The City of Alexandria adopted a new version of the transportation element of the City's Master Plan in the fall of 2007. One of the key recommendations in the Plan is to study and implement exclusive transitways in three key travel corridors in the City. When implemented, transitways will enable transit vehicles on them to travel faster than general purpose roadway lanes, thus making concepts like bus rapid transit more attractive to transit users in the City.

The Transportation Commission decided that its first priority was the first priority and recommends that \$500,000 be allocated to this project. This will supplement the previously approved \$1.4 million in grant funding for this ongoing long term project.

2. DASH Bus Acquisition

For a transit entity such as DASH to maintain its fleet, it must replace its buses after their useful life has been reached. Further, additional buses must eventually be acquired to address overcrowding issues on existing routes and to serve new transit markets. DASH needs to replace five vehicles in FY2011.

The original proposal was to acquire five hybrid replacement buses at \$600,000/bus for \$3.0 million. The Transportation Commission decided that buying four replacement buses for DASH for \$2.4 million would be its second priority project recommendation. In recent years, the City has used Commonwealth Urban funds to finance DASH bus replacement. Those funds are no longer available as of FY2011, as the Commonwealth's transportation capital funding pool has been depleted.

3. Transportation Demand Management Advancement

The City's Transportation Demand Management program is tasked with the goal of getting people out of single person occupied vehicles (SOV's) during peak travel times. To do this, the program has developed an extensive set of techniques to convince City residents and people employed in the City to use such modes as transit, carsharing, teleworking, and methods of ridesharing. Staff monitors the effectiveness of these services extensively and will produce a long range plan over the next year to outline the programs goals and activities which are foreseen for the program into the future.

Since the new BRAC facility at Seminary and I-395 has a very aggressive mode split target, the City and the Department of Defense will have to work very hard to meet a 50% non-SOV mode split. City staff believes that one of the primary functions of the

FY2011 funds will be to tailor different TDM programs to help BRAC meet the mode split goal it has set with the City.

The original proposal was to provide \$300,000 for this program. The Transportation Commission decided to recommend that this program receive \$100,000 as the City's third priority. These funds will supplement \$1,100,000 of funds previously awarded to this ongoing program.

4. Bike Racks on Buses

Bus racks have been institutionalized throughout the country on many public transit systems. Currently, the Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) is the only system in the Metropolitan Washington area that does not provide bike racks on its buses. Bus racks are mounted on the front of the bus, and fold up when not in use. Racks can hold two or three bicycles securely. The racks, in constant view of the driver, are secure.

Providing bicycle racks on buses helps encourage more multimodal trips, expands ridership and improves bicycle access. Bicycle racks for buses range in cost but a typical cost per bus for the equipment, installation, training and shipping is close to \$4,000 per bus. A bike-on-bus program for the Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) would cost \$280,000. The Transportation Commission determined that this project should receive the fourth priority.

5. Holmes Run Pedestrian/Bicycle Tunnel Construction, Phase II

The Holmes Run greenway provides access under Interstate 395 and Van Dorn Street via two tunnels. These tunnels were originally service tunnels and have only recently been adapted for use by bicyclists and pedestrians. However, the tunnels are in a serious state of disrepair. During periods of heavy rains, the tunnels flood, ruining the lighting and depositing sediment and debris onto the fair weather crossing of Holmes Run. Seepage from adjoining concrete embankments creates water hazards. The tunnels are extremely small, presenting both real and perceived safety hazards for users and vandalism is common.

An engineering study has begun to determine exactly which improvements will be needed to improve this important regional resource. The City has \$510,000 from previous RSTP/CMAQ allocations. The Transportation Commission recommends that that this project for \$500,000, be assigned the fifth priority.

6. Bicycle Sharing Initiative

Bicycling is a practical, cost-effective and efficient way to move through Old Town and Carlyle/East Eisenhower areas of Alexandria which are both compact, dense areas of mixed use development with many low-speed streets and existing on- and off-street bicycle facilities and parking. While the City is making improvements on many fronts to encourage more sustainable transportation choices, one major goal in the City's new

Transportation Master Plan is to implement a pilot bicycle sharing program. Public bicycle rental programs (also known as “bike sharing”) aim to provide short-term bicycle rental available at unattended urban locations.

A Bicycle Sharing Pilot Initiative would seek to identify an appropriate bike sharing technology and up to 25 locations in Old Town and Carlyle for bike sharing stations, to accommodate as many as 500 bikes. While the pilot initiative would primarily provide feasibility information and make key recommendations about future development, it should provide the option of implementing a pilot project in either Old Town or Carlyle. The Transportation Commission recommends that this \$500,000 project receive the City’s sixth highest priority. This project is also part of a regional bike sharing application which is being submitted by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) as a candidate for TIGER funding in September, 2009.

7. Eisenhower Platform Extension

The Eisenhower East area of Alexandria recently has begun to transform itself into a new town center. The latest ridership estimates show that the station will grow from handling approximately 4,000 trips per day to over 10,000 trips per day. Since much of this activity is north of Eisenhower Avenue, and the current Metro station is south of this roadway, the addition of another station entrance north of Eisenhower Avenue is required to minimize the number of conflicts between pedestrians using the station and motor vehicles.

The City has previously received \$3.6 million from FTA Section 5309 funds and matching Commonwealth funds for this project. This project is estimated to cost \$20,000,000. The Transportation Commission recommends that this project receive its seventh priority and receive \$500,000.

8. Braddock Road Metro Multimodal Connections

The Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan recommends studying the feasibility of building a tunnel connection under the freight rail tracks from the Braddock Road station itself. Such a tunnel would “provide a grand new station entry from the west, saving pedestrians walking time by eliminating the existing need to walk south to the Braddock Road underpass to reach the station” according to the Plan. In addition, the plan recommends studying a potential future pedestrian-bike connection and a potential walking route connection to the northern gateway.

This project would perform preliminary engineering to improve multimodal access and improve mobility options to the station. The Transportation Commission recommends that this \$250,000 project receive the City’s eighth priority.

9. Bicycle Parking at Major Transit Stops

Bicycle commuting has risen dramatically in Alexandria since 2005, in part due to improved on- and off-street connections to the City's bikeway network. However, the City still lags other local jurisdictions in providing safe, secure bicycle parking at its major transit stops. To address high demand and current use levels that meet or exceed capacity according to WMATA, the City is seeking funds for modular, enclosed, unattended bicycle parking "stations" at Metro stops. These shelters range in size from 10'x20' to 10'x40' and are designed to provide a low-cost, high-capacity solution that will also encourage short bicycle trips to complement public transit usage.. A complete program to implement bicycle parking improvements at all major transit stops in Alexandria would be \$550,000. However, the City proposes to begin the program with pilot installations at two or three heavily-used locations for \$380,000. The Transportation Commission assigned this \$380,000 project its ninth priority.

17
9-22-09



Eric Wagner
<wagnerek@comcast.net>

09/22/2009 03:53 PM

Please respond to
Eric Wagner
<wagnerek@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,
cc
bcc
Subject COA Contact Us: Tonight's Meeting: Bike Racks for DASH Buses

Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 15:53:50] Message ID: [15487]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Eric

Last Name: Wagner

Street Address: 18 West Uhler Avenue

City: Alexandria

State: VA

Zip: 22301

Phone:

Email Address: wagnerek@comcast.net

Subject: Tonight's Meeting: Bike Racks for DASH Buses
Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Members,

Tonight, you will vote

on a very important item for Alexandria's bike infrastructure: Funding the installation of bike racks on DASH buses. Alexandria is one of the very few remaining transit systems in the region (besides PG County's "THE Bus" and Falls Church's "GEORGE") without the racks.

The

Transportation Commission has recommended it and it is on top of the list of unfunded items on the Commission's priority list. Many people are taking advantage of improved public transportation infrastructure in our area and engage in multi-modal travel for work or pleasure which makes bike

Comments: racks on buses very important. There is a direct link to potential revenue increases for our local businesses.

The projected cost is \$280,000.

This is an investment for the long term and a sign that our city is serious

about providing alternatives for anyone who does not want to take a car for every trip.

Please vote for the bike racks on DASH buses

tonight!

Very truly yours,

Eric Wagner
Alexandria, VA



Bruce Dwyer
<ouibike@verizon.net>

09/22/2009 02:55 PM

Please respond to
Bruce Dwyer
<ouibike@verizon.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Bike Racks for Buses

17

9-22-09

Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 14:55:12] **Message ID:** [15486]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Bruce
Last Name: Dwyer
Street Address: 604 Melrose St.
City: Alexandria
State: Va
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-549-3263
Email Address: ouibike@verizon.net

Subject: Bike Racks for Buses
Dear Mayor and City Council,

Tonight you will be considering the recommendations from the Transportation Commission for projects to be funding with federal CMAQ/RSTP funds. I urge you to amend the recommendations to include funding for bike racks on DASH buses. This \$280,000 item (less than 10% of the funding available) did not make the priority cut established by the Commission. I believe all the funding was set aside for transit projects, however, I think that Alexandria would be well served with a more balanced approach for the use of these alternative transportation funds. Bike racks on buses have proven to be effective across the country and at present Alexandria is the only local jurisdiction without bike racks on it buses. Alexandria recently received a bronze level Bicycle Friendly Community award from the League of American Bicyclists. One of the deficiencies noted by the League was the absence of a bus system that accommodates bicycles. Please act to correct this

deficiency and bring us into line with other bus systems by funding the
\$280,000 for bike racks on DASH buses.

Thanks your for you consideration
of this request.

Bruce Dwyer

17
9-22-09



Thomas Howe
<howeboards@hotmail.com>

09/22/2009 02:51 PM

Please respond to
Thomas Howe
<howeboards@hotmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: City Council DASH Bus Bike Rack Vote



Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 14:51:11] Message ID: [15485]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Thomas
Last Name: Howe
Street Address: 4659 Kinsey Lane
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22311
Phone:
Email Address: howeboards@hotmail.com
Subject: City Council DASH Bus Bike Rack Vote
Dear City Council,

I am writing to support adding bike racks to DASH buses using CMAQ/RSTP funding. I understand that the Transportation Commission voted to recommend that these funds go entirely to the DASH bus service. I also understand that the first unfunded item on the Transportation Commission's priority list is Bike Racks For Buses (\$280,000).

Comments: I am writing to ask that some of the CMAQ/RSTP funds go to support this item (perhaps buy one less bus this year?). DASH is the only bus system in the region without racks. Bike-on-Bus trips are increasing regionally because of improved multi-modal connections. This would increase ridership and increase biking in Alexandria, both of which are good ways to get more local commerce without more local traffic.

Sincerely,
Thomas

Howe

17
9-22-09



Jennie Gordon
<jennie.e.gordon@gmail.com>

09/22/2009 01:33 PM

Please respond to
Jennie Gordon
<jennie.e.gordon@gmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,
cc
bcc
Subject COA Contact Us: bikes on DASH



Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 13:33:20] Message ID: [15482]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Jennie
Last Name: Gordon
Street Address: 308 E Windsor Ave
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22031
Phone: 571-970-6956
Email Address: jennie.e.gordon@gmail.com
Subject: bikes on DASH

I am writing in support of the letter below to install bike racks on DASH buses. Both my husband and I are avid bicyclists who try and keep our cars off the roads as much as possible, and being able to put our bikes on DASH to ride to Metrorail and around town would help tremendously with our commutes and daily activities. I hope the Council will support this initiative.

Jennie Gordon

CMAQ and RSTP Project Funding
Recommendations

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing to you for BikeWalk Alexandria to request that you include the

installation of bike racks on DASH buses as a project for the \$3 million of FY 2011 CMAQ/ RSTP funds. We realize that this alters the recommendations sent to you by the Transportation Commission. We have been asking for bike racks on the DASH buses for 10 years; for about 5 years now we have been told that all the buses would have racks when DASH opened the new bus facility. The DASH system is the only one in the region without bike racks.

DASH has never requested the funds to install the bike racks.

DASH only plans to purchase new buses with racks already installed. We assume the seven new buses DASH is getting soon will have racks; the 63 existing buses do not have racks. See the project description below.

As Alexandria 's advocacy organization for pedestrians and bicyclists, we have continued to encourage multi-modal transportation, especially for commuting. I have talked with Alexandrians who do not bike to work because they cannot safely bike in the Duke St. or Seminary Rd. corridors and are not within walking distance to a DASH stop; they now drive by themselves to work. As with Metro buses, DASH buses with bike racks would allow these people to bike to the bus stop and then bus to work. Racks would also allow more commuters to get to Metro stations. This project actually extends the DASH service area. It even allows people to bike for shopping and then return home with larger purchases.

Comments:

Although the Transportation Commission has listed bike racks for buses as the number 4 priority if more funds are available, it is unrealistic to expect that Alexandria will receive more than the projected \$3 million in FY 2011 CMAQ/RSTP funding.

Thanks you for considering our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Dave

Levy

Vice-president, BikeWalk Alexandria

703-549-5289

PROJECT

DESCRIPTION

Bike Racks for Buses

Bicycle racks to be placed on DASH

buses, which are the only buses in the region without racks. Bike-on-Bus trips are increasing regionally because of improved multi-modal connections. Racks were not previously installed on DASH buses because the old bus barn did not have space or facilities to wash buses with bike racks.

New information about using CMAQ or RSTP funds for transit ensures that this project would be eligible.

– Schedule : Installation

targeted for FY2011

– Project Cost : \$280,000. Based on recent installation costs in Fairfax County of \$4,000/bus plus contingency.

17
9-22-09



Eric Weisz
<eric.weisz@gmail.com>

09/22/2009 01:29 PM

Please respond to
Eric Weisz
<eric.weisz@gmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Bike racks on DASH buses



Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 13:29:45] Message ID: [15481]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Eric
Last Name: Weisz
Street Address: 320 E Nelson Ave #B2
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 202.355.8609
Email Address: eric.weisz@gmail.com
Subject: Bike racks on DASH buses

Dear City Council,

I am writing to support adding bike racks to DASH buses. I generally applaud Alexandria's efforts to become more cycle-friendly. Spin City 2009 is a worthwhile initiative and one that I hope breeds a new commitment to recognizing cycling as a legitimate form of transportation and continued investment in cycling infrastructure on the part of city government. Part of that infrastructure is racks on buses. Currently, DASH is the only bus system in the region without racks. This is

Comments: a black mark on what is otherwise an improving record of city performance.

I urge City Council vote to authorize the use of some of the CMAQ/RSTP funds to address the number one unfunded item on the Transportation Commission's priority list, Bike Racks For Buses. In doing so, the city can demonstrate its commitment to both cycling and public transportation in the city.

Sincerely,
Eric Weisz

17
9-22-09



Shawna Vacca
<svacca@gmu.edu>

09/22/2009 01:17 PM

Please respond to
Shawna Vacca
<svacca@gmu.edu>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Please Add Bike Racks to DASH buses!!!!



Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 13:17:32] Message ID: [15480]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Shawna
Last Name: Vacca
Street Address: 2500 N. Van Dorn St. #1407
City: Alexandria
State: Va
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-203-5551
Email Address: svacca@gmu.edu
Subject: Please Add Bike Racks to DASH buses!!!!

Dear City Council,

I am writing to support adding bike racks to DASH

buses
using CMAQ/RSTP funding.

It is important to me to be able to use

my bike as my primary mode of transportation. I work full time as a software developer in Old Town, Alexandria, and I am a graduate student. My time is very limited - biking as a means of transportation is my only way of staying in shape in my busy life-style and it saves me money. If the DASH bus system gave me the option of putting my bike on the bus, I could use the system more often instead of resorting to my car on days I have errands to run that are too far to do on a bike without losing more time in my day.

I know many others in the Alexandria community rely on the bus or bikes for transportation. If given the option to put their bike on the DASH, you give them a greater range of economic opportunity - both as

Comments:

members of the workforce and as consumers.

Vehicle traffic congestion

in the Northern Virginia area is a great problem. I treasure that I work and live in Alexandria and hope I never have to commute to D.C. or otherwise outside of Alexandria again. It's a respite for me and my fiancé, but what will we do as the years go by and yet more people move here and more people are forced to use cars for lack of other options?

Allowing

us to use our bikes with the transit system gives us the door-to-door delivery system we sometimes need and can't achieve with walking from bus stops. What kind of cost does it incur to our [road] infrastructure?

Couldn't those monies could be spent on creating bike lanes, which encourages a far healthier society that becomes more of a face-to-face interactive community?

Sincerely,

17
9-22-09



Liz Santos
<lizsantos@ymail.com>

09/22/2009 12:44 PM

Please respond to
Liz Santos
<lizsantos@ymail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,
cc
bcc
Subject COA Contact Us: Put bike racks on DASH buses



Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 12:44:35] Message ID: [15476]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Liz
Last Name: Santos
Street Address: 1204 S. Washington St #523
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone:
Email Address: lizsantos@ymail.com
Subject: Put bike racks on DASH buses

Dear City Council,

I am a City of Alexandria resident, a regular volunteer for the City, and a bike rider. I am writing to support adding bike racks to DASH buses using CMAQ/RSTP funding. I understand that the Transportation Commission voted to recommend that these funds go entirely to the DASH bus service. I also understand that the first unfunded item on the Transportation Commission's priority list is Bike Racks For Buses (\$280,000).

I am writing to ask that some of the CMAQ/RSTP funds go to

Comments: support this item (perhaps buy one less bus this year?). DASH is the only bus system in the region without racks. Bike-on-Bus trips are increasing regionally because of improved multi-modal connections. This would increase ridership and increase biking in Alexandria, both of which are good ways to get more local commerce without more local traffic.

More bike riders in

Alexandria makes the city more desirable to new residents and businesses.

Sincerely,

Liz Santos

17
9-22-09



Dave Levy
<bentbiking@yahoo.com>

09/22/2009 12:27 PM

Please respond to
Dave Levy
<bentbiking@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: CMAQ and RSTP Project Funding
Recommendations - Bike Racks on DASH Buses

Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 12:27:56] Message ID: [15475]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Dave
Last Name: Levy
Street Address: 309 E. Nelson Av.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301-1817
Phone: 703-549-5289
Email Address: bentbiking@yahoo.com
Subject: CMAQ and RSTP Project Funding Recommendations - Bike Racks on DASH Buses
Resend of

CMAQ and RSTP Project Funding Recommendations - Bike Racks on
DASH Buses

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,
I am writing

to you for BikeWalk Alexandria to request that you include the installation
of bike racks on DASH buses as a project for the \$3 million of FY 2011
CMAQ/ RSTP funds. We realize that this alters the recommendations sent to
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only plans to purchase new buses with racks already installed. We assume
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As Alexandria 's advocacy organization for pedestrians and bicyclists, we have continued to encourage multi-modal transportation, especially for commuting. I have talked with Alexandrians who do not bike to work because they cannot safely bike in the Duke St. or Seminary Rd. corridors and are not within walking distance to a DASH stop; they now drive by themselves to work. As with Metro buses, DASH buses with bike racks would allow these people to bike to the bus stop and then bus to work. Racks would also allow more commuters to get to Metro stations. This project actually extends the DASH service area. It even allows people to bike for shopping and then return home with larger purchases. Although the

Comments:

Transportation Commission has listed bike racks for buses as the number 4 priority if more funds are available, it is unrealistic to expect that Alexandria will receive more than the projected \$3 million in FY 2011 CMAQ/RSTP funding. Thank you for considering our

recommendation.
Sincerely,

Dave Levy
Vice-president, BikeWalk

Alexandria
703-549-5289

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Bike Racks for Buses

Bicycle racks to be placed on DASH buses, which are the only buses in the region without racks. Bike-on-Bus trips are increasing regionally because of improved multi-modal connections. Racks were not previously installed on DASH buses because the old bus barn did not have space or facilities to wash buses with bike racks. New information about using CMAQ or RSTP funds for transit ensures that this project would be eligible.

- Schedule: Installation targeted for FY2011
- Project Cost:

\$280,000. Based on recent installation costs in Fairfax County of

\$4,000/bus plus contingency.

17
9-22-09



Jonathan Krall
<jonathan@dcsma.org>

09/22/2009 12:12 PM

Please respond to
Jonathan Krall
<jonathan@dcsma.org>

To: william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov,
kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov,
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,
cc
bcc
Subject: COA Contact Us: Funding for bike racks on buses



Time: [Tue Sep 22, 2009 12:12:29] Message ID: [15473]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Jonathan
Last Name: Krall
Street Address: 534 E Duncan Ave
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 7035283517
Email Address: jonathan@dcsma.org
Subject: Funding for bike racks on buses

Dear City Council,

I am writing to follow up on my previous message in support of active transportation projects using CMAQ/RSTP funding. I understand that the Transportation Commission voted to recommend that these funds go entirely to the DASH bus service.

The Transportation Commission's first unfunded item on their priority list is Bike Racks For Buses (\$280,000).

I am writing to ask that some of the CMAQ/RSTP

Comments: funds go to support this item (perhaps buy one less bus this year?). DASH is the only bus system in the region without racks. Bike-on-Bus trips are increasing regionally because of improved multi-modal connections. This would increase ridership and increase biking in Alexandria, both of which are good ways to get more local commerce without more local

traffic.

Thank you for your time and
attention.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Krall